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United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board

Compendium of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2014

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2014/1
Modifications to procedures for consideration and approval of country programme documentation

The Executive Board

1. *Endorses* the proposed modification to the procedures for consideration and approval of country programme documentation (E/ICEF/2014/P/L.1), subject to the provisions of this decision;

2. *Welcomes* the continued efforts made by the members of the United Nations Development Group towards further harmonizing and streamlining programming instruments and processes in support of country programmes of cooperation, in line with the recommendations of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

3. *Stresses* that the programming process for UNICEF cooperation should continue to emphasize national ownership;

4. *Also stresses* the important role of the Executive Board in the review and approval of country programme documents;

5. *Requests* UNICEF to ensure a transparent and timely consultation process with the Executive Board, to provide sufficient time for discussion, and to ensure that all comments and recommendations made by Member States with regard to the draft country programme documents be made available to Executive Board members prior to formal consideration of the country programme documents;

6. *Requests* that country programme documents continue to be developed on the basis of national plans and priorities under the leadership of national governments and in consultation with the resident coordinator and other members of the United Nations country team, as well as with other relevant stakeholders at country level, in full alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), where applicable, and with the strategic plan of UNICEF;

7. *Requests* UNICEF, in line with the recommendations of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, to further simplify, harmonize and reduce the number of its agency-specific country programming instruments and processes, wherever possible, in particular in 'delivering as one' countries and countries deciding to apply the standard operating procedures;

8. *Encourages* UNICEF to continue to work with UNDP and UNFPA to further harmonize their country programme document templates, associated documentation and annexes;

9. *Requests* UNICEF to include the following elements in the country programme document, associated documentation and annexes:

(a) An indicative budget showing the expected use of regular and other resources;

(b) A results and resources framework;

(c) Information on how the results, as reflected in the results and resources framework, relate to the strategic plan and the organization-wide results framework, to national priorities, and, as applicable, to the UNDAF;

(d) A costed evaluation plan;

(e) A statement of accountability for programme results;

10. *Requests* UNICEF to ensure that the results and resources frameworks are an integral part of country programme documents and to translate them accordingly;

11. *Recalls* the importance of strictly observing the resolutions and rules, such as General Assembly resolution 67/292, establishing language arrangements for the different bodies and organs of the United Nations.

First regular session
6 February 2014

2014/2
Costed UNICEF Gender Action Plan, 2014-2017

The Executive Board

1. *Recalls* its decision 2013/9 on the report on the progress of gender equality work in UNICEF (E/ICEF/2013/12), requesting UNICEF to (a) develop a new Gender Equality Action Plan, 2014-2017, and in doing so, to address each of the challenges identified in the report, such as technical capacity, expertise and resource allocation for gender equality, (b) develop a performance management plan that includes a results framework, and a plan for monitoring, evaluation and reporting, and (c) cost and allocate adequate funds for the new Gender Equality Action Plan, 2014-2017;

2. *Also recalls* its decision 2013/20 on the UNICEF integrated budget, 2014-2017, reiterating its request to UNICEF to develop a costed Gender Equality Action Plan for 2014-2017, which would include a comprehensive gender analysis to further strengthen gender mainstreaming in the organization in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan;

3. *Welcomes* the "Update on progress on a costed gender action plan" (document E/ICEF/2014/CRP.5) and the other preparatory and drafting work, and ongoing consultations to develop the costed Gender Equality Action Plan, 2014-2017;

4. *Encourages* UNICEF to continue to consult the Executive Board and the other relevant stakeholders and partners with a view to finalizing the costed Gender Equality Action Plan, 2014-2017, by mid-April 2014, for its presentation for information to the Executive Board at its annual session of 2014, together with the annual report on the progress of work in gender equality in UNICEF.

First regular session
6 February 2014

2014/3
UNICEF annual financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012 and report of the Board of Auditors

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the reports A/68/5/Add.2, A/68/381 and A/68/350;

2. *Notes* the unqualified audit opinion issued by the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2012;

3. *Supports* ongoing UNICEF management efforts in implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2012, including the timely implementation of any outstanding recommendations;

4. *Requests* UNICEF to continue strengthening core business practices and internal controls, as well as monitoring and oversight of implementing partners;

5. *Encourages* UNICEF to continue strengthening the monitoring and oversight of the implementation of its cooperation agreements with National Committees for UNICEF;

6. *Also encourages* UNICEF to prioritize the finalization of the revised framework for the harmonized approach to cash transfers, in coordination with other members of the United Nations Development Group, and to ensure improved oversight when the revised framework is implemented.

First regular session
6 February 2014

2014/4
Private fundraising: 2014 workplan and proposed budget

A. Private Fundraising and Partnerships budgeted expenses for 2014 fiscal year

The Executive Board

1. *Approves* for the fiscal year 2014 (1 January to 31 December) budgeted expenses of $109 million, as detailed in the table below.

	(in millions of United States dollars)
Investment funds	49.0
Other private sector fundraising costs	60.0
Total special purpose expenses	**109.0**

2. *Notes* that $19.4 million in Private Fundraising and Partnerships development effectiveness costs and management costs were approved in the UNICEF Integrated Budget, 2014-2017 submission (E/ICEF/2013/AB/L.4);

3. *Authorizes* UNICEF

(a) To incur expenses, as summarized in column II of table 3 of document E/ICEF/2014/AB/L.1, and to decrease or increase expenses, up to the levels indicated in columns I and III of the same table, should the apparent revenue from fundraising or cards and products sales decrease or increase to the levels indicated in columns I and III;

(b) To redeploy resources between the various budget lines (as detailed in paragraph 1 above), up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the amounts approved;

(c) To spend an additional amount between Executive Board sessions, when necessary, up to the amount caused by currency fluctuations, to implement the 2014 approved workplan;

4. *Requests* UNICEF

(a) To provide updates to the Executive Board, with information and data, on the use of investment funds, and the returns generated thereof;

(b) To continue to ensure effective management of the relationship with National Committees for UNICEF, with a particular focus on monitoring compliance with the Cooperation Agreement.

B. Budgeted revenue for the year 2014

The Executive Board

Notes that, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2014, Private Fundraising and Partnerships revenue is budgeted at $1,137 million, as shown in column II of table 3 in document E/ICEF/2014/AB/L.1.

C. Policy issues

The Executive Board

1. *Approves* allocation of investment funds, amounting to $49 million for 2014;

2. *Further approves* an interim one-month allocation for January 2015 of $13.14 million, to be absorbed in the annual Private Fundraising and Partnerships budget for 2015.

First regular session
6 February 2014